

REMARKS

Claims 1-53 were presented for examination. Claims 1-8, 18, 20, 21, 24-31, 41, 43, 44, 48, 52 and 53 are pending and are rejected. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The 35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejections

Claims 1-6, 8, 18, 20, 21, 24-29, 31, 41, 43, 44, 48, 52 and 53 are rejected as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Rigault et al.

The present application has a priority date of January 8, 1999. The Chen reference has a priority date of January 15, 1999. Thus, the Chen reference is not a valid reference against the present application. Therefore the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 7 and 30 are rejected as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Rigault et al. and further in view of Wetherbee.

As discussed above, the Chen reference is not a valid reference in the present case. Therefore the rejection should be withdrawn.

Further, in the Office action mailed 7-30-03, the Examiner indicated that claims 18, 19, 41, 42 and 48 were allowable because the references did not disclose the features of data warehousing applications in the domain of protein sequence and structure analysis; the domain of functional genomics and proteomics; and the domain

of astrophysics. In response, the applicant amended claims 18, 41 and 48 as suggested by the examiner. The applicant also amended claim 1 and 24 to include the domain of functional genomics and proteomics.

The Examiner indicated in Office action mailed 1-2-04 (to which this paper is responsive) that it was made final because the applicants' amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejections. The Examiner has apparently made the action final because claims 1 and 24 were amended. The Examiner then conducted a new search and now presents those references for the first time.

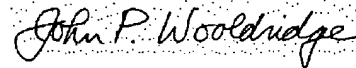
Based on the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance in the action mailed 7-30-04, the applicant could reasonably believe that the amendments to claims 1 and 24 would place them in condition for allowance because each claim is directed to data warehousing applications in the domain of functional genomics and proteomics. These claims correspond to the subject matter indicated in the Examiners' statement of allowable subject matter provided in Item 3 of the Office action mailed 7-30-04.

Conclusions

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance based on claims 1-8, 18, 20, 21, 24-31, 41, 43, 44, 48, 52 and 53 in view of the amendments thereto and the foregoing comments.

If any impediments remain to prompt allowance of the case, please
contact the undersigned at 808-875-0012.

Respectfully submitted,



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